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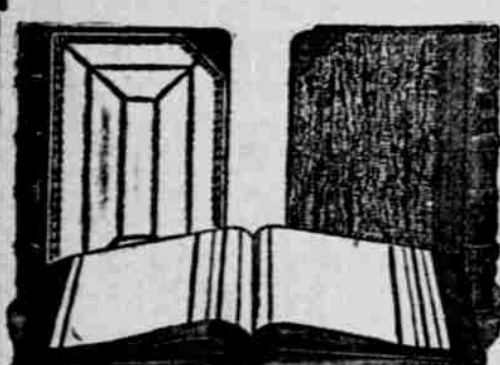
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# GETTING READY FOR THE CHINESE NEW YEAR DAYS

Big Time Will Begin at Midnight on  
Sixth of February---Making of  
Lanterns and Candles.

CHINATOWN is getting its "glad rags" in shape to celebrate the approaching celestial New Year, which begins on Friday, February 7. There is an air of activity in all sections of the thickly populated district where the Chinese live and conduct their business. The coming New Year promises to be a big event despite the assurances of some of the knowing Chinese, that times are hard and that there is not as much money to put into a celebration this year as in former days. As an indication, however, that the Chinese in general are possessed of enough money to make it worth their while to scare off the evil spirits, some of the business houses will remain closed for two weeks. The closing up will take place on Friday, the first day of the New Year, and many will re-open for business again on the following Monday. There will have to be a big lot of pounding of drums and the sounding of cymbals, screeching of indefinable fiddles, and burning of much red joss paper in three days, to frighten off devils that are not needed in the business of the celestials. For this reason, if for no other, the majority will remain closed up anywhere from six to twelve days.

There has been a difference of opinion between Yang Wei Pin, the Chinese Consul and the leaders of the Reform party, as to the date when the New Year commences. The Consul assures his people officially that the New Year begins on Thursday, February 6, while the Reformers declare as energetically, if not quite so officially, that Friday, February 7, is the day. At any rate, the big reception which the United Chinese Society gives every year, will be held in the rooms of the society on King street at noon Friday, and under the auspices of the Reformers who now control the society.

The day will open at the conclusion of the last stroke of the midnight hour on the 6th with an uproarious explosion of big and small firecrackers, and the Chinese brass bands will split the air with celestial music, a la Chinese. Big feasts are also in order for that hour. At present the wholesale and retail dealers are opening up cases of goods recently received from China, which are filled with the delicacies of the Chinese New Year's season.

One of the most interesting phases of the preparations is that of the manufacture of the big glazed lanterns, which, on New Year's Eve, will line every street in the Chinatown district. These big lanterns with their brilliant colored designs in flowers, birds and picturesque scenes in China painted thereon, are something that no Chinaman who intends to properly observe the celebration can get along without. They are generally bought in pairs and range in price from \$2 to \$20.

On Hotel and Maunakea streets there are several little stores where Chinese are busy at work filling orders for these balloon-like lanterns, and are not able to turn out half enough of them to comply with the demands. Not only are the lanterns entirely manufactured here, but the brilliantly painted candles which light them are made here as well. Even the cases of tubes in which each candle is placed for shipment out of town, are patiently manufactured in these shops. The process is interesting.

The frames for the lanterns are made

from bamboo split in half and shaved down to a transparent thinness. These are bowed out to turned blocks at top and bottom, and arranged in sockets to open or shut like an umbrella, only with both ends caught, so that until the middle parts are bowed out, the affair is almost round. Over this expanded framework is stretched a fine cloth of silk threads with meshes several times larger than those in mosquito netting.

The cloth is secured to the bamboo strips with a thin paste. A workman using a wide brush covers the thin gauzy stuff with shellac. This operation is gone over several times until the surface presents a smooth, glazed appearance, with all the meshes filled. The globe looks very much like a sphere of smoke-colored crystal. This is allowed to dry and then another Chinese, with paint-pot and brush, inscribes on the surface huge Chinese characters, oftentimes putting on the name of the person or firm ordering the lantern. This is again allowed to dry when it is treated to a shellac coating, giving it a rich appearance. Another artist then takes the lantern in hand and paints up the surface with flowers, scenes in China, conventional border designs, until from a Chinese standpoint, it is a thing of beauty forever. When perfectly dry, the lantern is allowed to fold up, no damage being done to the painting, and is tied with bamboo thongs.

During the manufacture of the lanterns another interesting operation is going on in another room. This is the manufacture of the candles to be placed in the lanterns. A standard is placed in the middle of the floor and on top of this, parallel with the floor, are two hoops, one within the other, which revolve. A Chinaman sits before this device and hangs on the outer rim thin strips of bamboo in the form of an L, the longer part hanging downward. At the lower end are wicks of cotton. Directly under the outer rim is an iron basin filled with tallow, and under this a fire burns, keeping the tallow in a liquid form. Three wicks are dipped into the tallow and hung up again. Three more are similarly reated, and in time the two hundred or more wicks on the outer rim have been dipped. Again and again they are dipped, the Chinaman patiently performing this duty from morning until night. When the wicks have been dipped, a middle finger they are transferred to the inner rim and new wicks are added to the outer one. Finally the candles have assumed the right size, and they are laid aside. Another Chinaman takes them in hand, and paints them a brilliant red, wicks up all. They are hung up to dry, and soon are ready for shipment. Some candles are made nearly a foot long, and about two inches thick. These are painted red and then treated to gilt trimmings, which makes them quite expensive. Some candles which have raised inscriptions and scenes and are beautifully decorated, cost as much as \$10 a pair. A Chinaman asks for no color but red for his New Year's celebration, it being a sign of good luck. His visiting cards are always red strips of paper.

For the larger candles care has to be taken for their shipment. If they are to go outside of Honolulu. Hollow bamboos are cut into lengths of about a foot, split and notched at the ends. The end of the wick is caught between a small piece of bamboo with a slit in the center and this is caught in the notch of the covers. Bamboo thongs bind the two halves together, making the candle secure so it cannot break in transit.

The lanterns thus manufactured are of all sizes, from a lantern not a foot high, to some that are six feet tall. The glazed surfaces show the brilliant colorings when the candles are lighted within, and during a gala season in Chinatown, make an interesting sight of Oriental splendor. The manufacturers are hastening to fill their orders, and although there is almost two weeks yet to pass before New Year commences, yet some of them feel that they will not succeed in fulfilling promises.

The largest lantern to be displayed will be that belonging to Wing On Tai on King street, which is about six feet high, and cost in China about \$15 or \$20. An electric light will be used to illuminate it.

## THE U. S. TRAINING SHIP MOHICAN.

(Continued from Page 3.)

for with the young men, to keep them always at work would so discourage them that there would be little good done in their training in the end. So it was that when the Mohican came here there was no attempt made to have any drills but the lads were sent ashore for all the pleasure they could get out of the visit.

This course will be followed when the ship reaches Yokohama and there is little doubt but the young men will have an opportunity to see all that is going on in the East while they are on leave there.

The drills and the working of the men give to officers of the ship a chance to find out the specialties of the youngsters. Thus there is in the company of the Mohican a young man who will be in the future an electrician, another who is now working as a carpenter, and others who will be permitted to develop their specialties as soon as there is an opportunity.

The following is the itinerary of the ship:

San Francisco—Leave Nov. 15, 1901; destination next port, 1905.  
Magdalena Bay—Arrive Nov. 26, 1901; leave Dec. 15, 1901; next port \$10.  
Pichilingue—Arrive Dec. 15, 1901; leave Dec. 20, 1901; next port \$200.  
Hilo—Arrive Jan. 10, 1902; leave Jan. 16, 1902; next port \$10.  
Honolulu—Arrive Jan. 17, 1902; leave Jan. 27, 1902; next port \$118.  
Christmas Island—Arrive Feb. 8, 1902; leave Feb. 10, 1902; next port \$192.

Pago Pago—Arrive Feb. 22, 1902; leave March 9, 1902; next port \$900.  
Guam—Arrive April 8, 1902; leave April 18, 1902; next port \$41.  
Bohai—Arrive April 27, 1902; leave May 2, 1902; next port \$50.  
Yokohama—Arrive May 8, 1902; leave May 18, 1902; next port \$300.  
Honolulu—Arrive June 23, 1902; leave July 5, 1902; next port \$200.  
Bremerton—Arrive Aug. 4, 1902; leave Aug. 6, 1902; next port \$0.  
Victoria—Arrive Aug. 6, 1902; leave Aug. 13, 1902; next port \$25.  
Port Angeles—Arrive Aug. 13, 1902; leave Sept. 4, 1902; next port \$21.  
San Francisco—Arrive Sept. 10, 1902.

The officers who have charge of the making of the sailors are the following:

Commander A. R. Couden, captain.  
Lieutenant-Commander H. S. Knapp, executive officer.  
Lieutenant H. K. Hines, navigator.  
Lieutenant S. M. Strite, engineering officer.  
Lieutenant B. F. Hutchinson, senior watch officer.  
Lieutenant F. B. Upham, second watch officer.  
Ensign H. P. Perrill, third watch officer.  
Ensign E. J. Sadler, fourth watch officer.  
Passed Assistant Paymaster George Brown Jr., pay officer.  
Pay Clerk J. C. Waters, pay clerk.  
Assistant Surgeon C. N. Fiske, medical officer.  
Acting Boatswain D. Moriarty, boatswain.  
Acting Gunner W. H. F. Schluter, gunner.  
Acting Carpenter W. W. Toles, carpenter.

## SECRETARY OF TREASURY LESLIE MORTIER SHAW



SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY LESLIE M. SHAW.  
Leslie Mortier Shaw, who succeeds Lyman J. Gage as the head of the treasury department, is a native of Vermont but has long been a resident of Iowa. He is a lawyer and a banker and has been twice elected governor of Iowa.

### A GREEDY PYTHON.

In a glass box 8 by 6 and 5 feet high, which occupies a section of the monkey house in the Central Park menagerie, a sixteen-foot African python, some black snakes, several little Florida alligators and an eighteen-inch horned lizard, habitat Central and South America, lived until last night without losing individuality. Once, indeed, about four weeks ago, the python was charged with the disappearance of a little alligator, because the outline of the diminutive body was seen inside the python. But J. H. Smith, director, thought that unless the python was a freak it would devour no more hard coated things, because pythons who live up to their historical reputation prefer rats, rabbits and pigeons, and this python got them when he was hungry—about once in ten days. Yet he seemed not to be inconvenienced in digesting the crocodile.

On Friday night he outdid himself. He swallowed the horned lizard. This sprawling reptile used to make children shiver on account of his ugly spines. The main horn, on his nose, from which he took his name, was four inches high, and spines grew back from that along his backbone until they dwindled away at the tip of his tail. Altogether, he did not look as if he would be good to eat at one swallow, but that seems to have been the way he met his end.

Yesterday, when "Jake" Cook, the keeper of the monkey house, made his morning survey of his charges, he missed the lizard in the glass box. The blacksnakes were tied together and twisted in the dead tree branches placed in the box for that purpose, and the python and little alligators shared the shallow tank in one end. At first sight the lizard was not there. Cook could see no visible means of escape, and was deeply mystified.

Then he saw an abnormal bulging in the python's attenuated body, a hump forward of the middle. It began with a big knot in the side, and gradually dwindled away toward the python's head. Cook then remembered the occurrence of four weeks ago, and decided what had become of the horned lizard. Cook asserts there was no movement on the part of the hump at the time he first noticed it, or afterward. The python was perfectly dormant. Cook says he doesn't know when it will wake up.—New York Tribune.

### APROPOS OF BIRD SONGS.

Mention was made in the Morning Post a fortnight ago of M. Coupin's essay on bird songs. He has added to it some interesting details of birds which imitate songs other than their own. He gives an instance of a sparrow which was hung in a cage side by side with another cage in which were grasshoppers. No notice was taken by the sparrow of his neighbors, but next year, when he was in the same society, he essayed the grasshopper's note, for the rest of his life never quite lost the art of it. This does not seem very remarkable, for there is something not unlike the noise of a grasshopper—at any rate of a cricket—in the London sparrow's ceaseless "tweet," as any one who possesses a suburban back garden will be aware. M. Coupin mentions the instance of young linnets which will sometimes learn the song of a nightingale. It would be an incomplete performance, we imagine; but certainly the linnets always learn in captivity a chant distinct from the song of the trees and hedgerows.

It is also said that several kinds of birds in Thuringia, having skilled examples before them, sing much better than members of their own species dwelling in the Hartz mountains. A German investigator, Herr Rohweder, has lately been devoting his attention to an explanation for the curious bleating or drumming of the snipe. Rohweder contends that this strange music is caused by the rapid vibration of the horizontally extended and half-closed wings, which drive a strong current of air against the stiffened outer tail feathers, setting them in rapid vibration and causing the curious tremulous bleating sound. Lastly, it is interesting to note that in spite of the difference of their accomplishment, the thrush and the raven have much the same vocal equipment.—London Morning Post.

### HIS COMMENT.

"I can't help thinkin'," said old Farmer Broadhead, a trifle sarcastically, "that if he was guilty of all the cuttin' up that have been laid to him under the general heading of 'Jeffersonian simplicity,' the late Thomas Jefferson was not merely simple, as charged, but downright idiotic!"—Puck.

## WONDERFUL SUCCESS

A Talk of Interest to the Young by  
One Who Has Had Both Bad  
and Good Fortune.

"Success rarely, if ever, comes until after many failures," said Mr. Emory T. Hubbard. "The failures we do not hear of, but the successes make men famous."

Mr. Hubbard is a man who, after many failures, at last achieved success and he talks interestingly about it. He is a trained nurse and masseur, living at No. 139 May street, Pasadena, Cal. To a reporter he said:

"I had almost given up hope, but finally I attained that for which I sought—health. Something over ten years ago I underwent two surgical operations and as a result my nervous system broke down. I became all run down, weak and exhausted. I could not sleep, was constipated, my liver was bad and my blood very much out of order."

In the latter part of 1895, after five doctors had been treating me for as many years without doing me any good, I saw an advertisement in the paper and began taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. When I had taken half the second box I found I was getting better, and I kept on until I was cured. I always keep the pills by me, and whenever a long, hard case has caused me to feel run down, I take them to brace me up. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People did wonders for me and I am confident they will do as much for others who were troubled as I was.

Few people are better qualified to judge of the merits of a medicine than the trained nurse. His range of experience is wider even than the physician's, for he is in constant attendance upon his patient, day and night, often for weeks and months at a time; he sees all the varied phases of every case and notes every change in his condition. Familiar with sickness from the hundreds of cases he has cared for, a recommendation of a medicine by a professional nurse bears great weight and more especially when he has tried the remedy himself. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People will not only cure cases similar to that of Mr. Hubbard but, containing as they do, all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves, they have proved efficacious in a wide range of diseases. They are sold by all dealers or will be sent postpaid on receipt of price, fifty cents a box; six boxes, two dollars and fifty cents, by addressing Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

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J. M. WEBB.

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